

## POST TOURNAMENT BASS STOCK-PILING EVALUATION

### IDFG / Bass Clubs Collaboration

**Background:** Local bass clubs approached Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) with the concern that current post-tournament bass releases practices may be having a negative impact upon the Milner Reservoir smallmouth bass fishery. The IDFG agreed to work with clubs to evaluate their concerns.

**Basic evaluation goal:** To follow post-tournament released bass (after weigh in) throughout the season documenting movement by observing tag recaptures.

Local bass fishing club members and IDFG will be working with tournament holders to 1) allow bass to be jaw tagged at their tournament after the weigh in and before actual release, and 2) report tagged bass encountered during pre-tournament and tournament fishing on Milner Reservoir. We're asking tournament participants to make note of the tag color and general location where the fish was caught

### Tournament Organizers and Participants

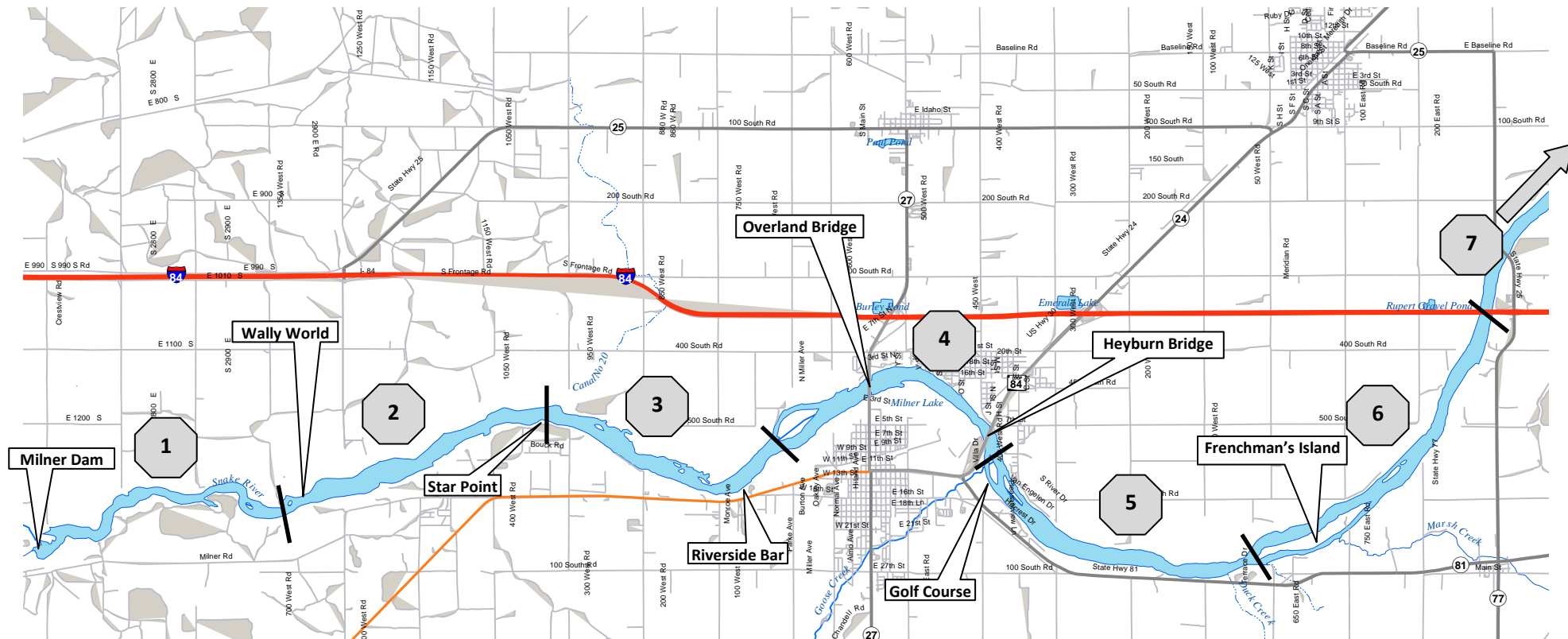
**We need your help:** This evaluation can provide information directly related to you as a tournament organizer or participant as well as the fishery you're enjoying. Your cooperation is crucial to the study. Please take time to understand what we're asking you to do during and after the tournament. Participation in this study is voluntary but we would encourage your cooperation.

**Tournament Organizers:** Please contact Doug Megargle - Regional Fishery Manager (208-324-4359: [doug.megargle@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:doug.megargle@idfg.idaho.gov)) if you are willing to participate in the evaluation or have questions. We (IDFG) are asking that this one page handout be issued to each boat participating in your tournament. We would suggest copies be handed out at the drivers meeting or preferably to folks as they register for the tournament. That would allow anglers to be educated prior to any pre-tournament fishing. If you are willing to participate, a team of volunteers and/or IDFG folks will set up a tagging station that will receive already weighed bass prior to being transported to the release boat.

### Tournament Participants (anglers):

- 1) Please take the time to record any jaw tagged bass you catch in Milner Reservoir regardless to whether or not you keep the fish or release it. All we need is the color and the section (see picture of jaw tag).
- 2) Recording tagged bass is easy (see reverse side). If you catch a tagged bass, use the map to identify which section you are in, the place a "tally" in the appropriate section and color in the table. That's it - shouldn't take a lot of time on the water.
- 3) Turn the information in to the tournament organizer at the end of the tournament. We would recommend you turn it in at the weigh in to assure all sheets have been collected.






Section

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Silver							
Blue							
Gold							
Red							
Green							

PLEASE RECORD ANY JAW TAGGED BASS (COLOR ONLY-TAG NUMBER NOT NEEDED) IN THE APPROPRIATE SECTION (SEE BELOW EXAMPLE)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Red		Example only	Example only	Example only	Example only	Example only	Example only